

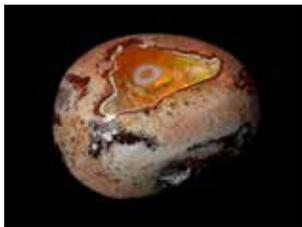


The **CULVER CITY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB**, located in Culver City, California, brings together persons interested in the earth sciences to engage in research and study, to assist members in the collection and preservation of rocks and minerals and in the study of lapidary and related arts.



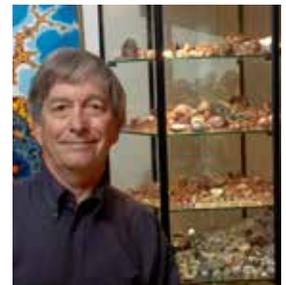
January Program: Mexican Fire Opal Cabs

Mexican fire opal cabs are the opal equivalent to agates displayed in the matrix. The clear opal variety shows complex structures, just like in agates, however, they also show off an incredible display of color patterns that change dramatically with the angle of view or direction of lighting. These opals can be purchased from mine owners and resellers at the Tucson Mineral Show in February or from resellers at other mineral shows for prices far less than for gem-quality opals from other parts of the world.



In addition to their spectacular structural forms and variable displays of color, other unusual properties have been uncovered during the creation of a collection of over 10,000 closeup photographs of 3,000 cabs. Some show fire when held up to the light, while others show light patterns when shielded from bright light such as sunlight. Internal surfaces also cause remarkable light patterns to appear. Unique examples will be shown.

Jack Hobart is a retired Aerospace scientist who amassed a large collection of Lake Superior agates, including the rare copper agates presented to CCRMC during the September meeting. He began traveling to the Tucson Mineral Show in 2006 at which time the collection of opal cabs began. He has applied the new photography technique of focus stacking to reveal internal opal structure to remarkable detail. Some previously unknown features of these opals have been uncovered and documented in his new book, *Canteras - Mexican Opals in Matrix, Spectacular Cabs of Fire*. He was a presenter at the 2015 GIA Annual Symposium featuring opals.



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General Meetings

General meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room at the Culver City Veterans Memorial Complex, 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230. **Guests are always welcomed!**

Upcoming Programs

- January 13 – Mexican Opals
- February 10 – To be announced
- March 09 – To be announced

Holiday Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange



President's Message

2019 was quite a year for our club, and I want to thank all those who contributed to making it interesting, educational and successful. A special thanks go to Aprelle Pierce and her team for putting together a really nice holiday party last month.

As we start the new year, I want to welcome our team of club officers who will focus on making our club even better. Our new workshop series helps to teach lapidary and jewelry skills. Our shop improvement program has completed a new soldering station and a much-improved overhead lighting system.

Our gem show in June will be experimenting with a more automated approach to managing how we schedule volunteers. Our schedule of monthly programs will feature some great speakers accented with an occasional silent auction or ice cream social.

I'm looking forward to offering more field trips and building a larger club membership this year. If you'd be interested in helping with these activities, please get in touch. In particular, we need someone to help put out the newsletter each month and someone to arrange the drinks and snacks at our monthly meetings.

Brad Smith, President

Beginning Lapidary

Workshop Description:

Make a cabochon from a slab (a slice of rock we supply) by sawing an outline on the trim saw, shape it on the grinding wheels, polish it on the polishing machines and material permitted, get a high polish on the leather lathe so you can walk home with a great rock, ready for setting. You will be shown how to create a rounded "cab" that will fit whatever setting you want, avoid getting "flat spots" aka facets, and bevel the underside to make it fit nicely in a bezel (if that's the setting you want).



This workshop is limited to 3 students who must be members of CCRMC. Membership can be arranged on the day of the workshop.

Instructor: Jette Sorensen

Date: Sunday, January 12

Time: 9:00 am - 12 noon

Location: CCRMC Lapidary Shop behind the Scout House at 10866 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230

Workshop Fee:

CCRMC Members Only: \$40 paid in advance

What to Bring:

Wear old clothes (you will get wet), closed-toe shoes, and bring eye protection. Also, bring ear protection and a facemask if you want.

We will supply all the materials used to make your cabochon.

If you want to work on your own material, you may stay after the workshop ends. Regular shop fees will apply after 12 pm.

Email Jette Sorensen at jetsens@jetsens.com to sign up and get payment instructions.

Spiral Chainmaille Bracelet

Workshop Description:

This is a beautiful weave which produces a dense and sturdy spiral pattern as you work. Also known as the Rope Chain, the spiral holds its twist whether it is clasped or on its own. Excellent as a necklace, bracelet, or earrings and is perfect for any pendant you choose.



Instructor: Janice Metz

Date: Friday, January 24

Time: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: - The Scout House, 10866 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230

Workshop Fee:

CCRMC Members: \$50

Non-Members: \$60

Materials Kit: \$20

What to Bring:

Please bring two pair of flat-nose pliers. Plier tips should be no larger than 1/4" wide, smooth-jawed, so the ridges will not mark up the rings. Optivisors, magnifying glasses, and battery-powered light(s), if needed. A hand towel or washcloth to place your links on.

We will break for a short lunch, so please feel free to bring your own lunch.

To make your reservation or to ask questions, please contact Janice Metz at jenft4@gmail.com

Lead a Workshop!

Share your expertise and lead a workshop!

Please reach out to Workshops Chair, Janice Metz at jenft4@gmail.com for more information.

Master the Jewelers Saw

If you've wanted to start making fine jewelry in the new year, this is the first of several workshops I have planned that will introduce you to the basic tools and skills.

Workshop Description:

The hand saw is one of the most basic tools used by jewelers to cut and shape materials. Not only do jewelers use it to saw a piece of metal to the right shape, they use it to cut jump rings and pierce intricately shaped holes of a lacy pattern. It's important for new jewelers to master the use of the saw frame and know the blades used with it.



This workshop will cover all you need to know about this tool including:

- choosing the right blade to use
- where to get the best blades
- how to load a blade properly
- avoiding breaking a blade in the cut
- the trick for turning a corner
- How to saw out a closed area

Attendees will develop their skills on a practice piece and then make a pendant or a set of pierced earrings to take home. The project will also cover drilling holes, filing edges to shape, sanding and finishing the piece to wear.

Instructor: Brad Smith

Date: Saturday, January 25

Time: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: CCRMC Lapidary Shop behind the Scout House at 10866 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230

Workshop Fee:

CCRMC Members: \$35

Non-Members: \$45

What to Bring:

Bring your magnifier glasses if you normally wear them. All tools, blades and practice metal will be provided. Feel free to bring your own saw frame if you like.

Silver sheet will be available at an extra cost for those who would like to work with precious metal.

To make your reservation or to ask questions, please contact Brad Smith at brad@greenheart.com

It's Time to Renew Your Dues

Keep your membership up to date! Membership renewals are due on January 1. Renew by completing the application form at the end of the newsletter and bring the application along with your payment to the Club's monthly meeting or mail it to the address listed on the application.

CCRMC Membership Perk

I dropped my smartphone during the Holiday party and damaged it so bad that I had to purchase a new one. I went to Verizon to look at options. The salesperson asked if I was part of a big group, like the military or some association since I might qualify for a discount.

I told him as a joke, since I didn't expect our club would qualify as a "big group," that I am a member of Culver City Rock and Mineral Club, a non-profit. He looked it up, and lo and behold, CCRMC is listed!

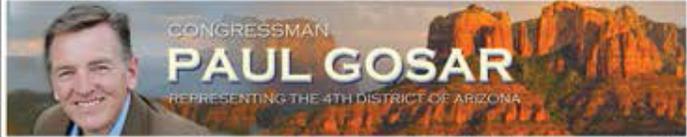
To get a 5% discount on Verizon purchases, bring your badge as proof of membership.

Jette Sorenson



Coming to Quartzsite
January 18, 2020
Quartzsite Community Center,
295 East Chandler Street,
Quartzsite, AZ.
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM MST
American Lands Access Association
2020 Public Meeting and Forum
"Recreational Rockhounding
and Public Lands"

Our Featured Speaker for the Evening



CONGRESSMAN
PAUL GOSAR
REPRESENTING THE 4TH DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Congressman Gosar, Representing the Arizona's 4th District and Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, will be presenting information on Recreational Rockhounding and Public Land issues in the Western States, accomplishments in the Arizona 4th District and the Congressional Western Caucus as they pertain to Recreational Rockhounding. After his presentation there will be a Question and Answer session relating to Recreational Rockhounding on Public Lands. Speaker is subject to change depending on availability and schedule.

American Lands Access Association, Inc - www.amlands.org

Lapidary Shop



Our fully equipped lapidary shop hours and instructors are:

Tuesday 7 pm - 9 pm Rick Shaffer

Wednesday 10 am - 2 pm Vern Lowe or Jette Sorensen. By appointment only, email: shop-avail-appoint@culvercityrocks.org

Thursday 10 am - 2 pm Brad Smith

Saturday 12 pm - 4 pm Lynne Lukert or Steve Dover

Sunday 12 pm - 4 pm Jette Sorensen

Call 310-836-4611 if you are arriving 30 minutes after the posted start time, at the discretion of our instructors, they may close the Shop if no one arrives within the first 30 minutes.

Members must be current with membership dues, sign an annual insurance waiver and receive instruction before starting in the Shop.

Practice rough and slabs are included in the basic shop fee.

The Shop is for use by adults 18+ only; junior members 13+ must sign a special release and a parent/guardian must be present to use any equipment.

10866 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90230
The Shop is located behind the Scout House.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.culvercityrocks.org/lapshop.htm>



Partick Karrigan	January 1
Marc Whittemore	January 4
Roberta Sawyers	January 5
Edward Gillman	January 10
Sharon Kaplan	January 10
Germaine Broussard	January 18
Jennifer Chan	January 21
Carmella Sawyers	January 21
Flint Smith	January 22
Christine Janicki	January 24
Yuki Aokusa	January 30

Welcome to Our New Members



Jeramie Bellmay

Elizabeth Hessami

Zachary Rosenberg

Upcoming CFMS Shows

January 18-19:: **Exeter, CA**

Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia
Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building
324 N. Kaweah Avenue
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Contact: Gayle Bingaman (559) 802-6029
Email: bandgbing@aol.com
Website: tulegem.com

February 14-23:: **Indio, CA**

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
82-503 Highway 111
Hours: 10-10 daily
Contact: Bert Grisham, (951) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 15-17:: **Antioch, CA**

Antioch Lapidary Club
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds
1201 West 10th Street
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: Brenda Miguel
Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com
Website: antiochlapidaryclub.com

February 22-23:: **Vallejo, CA**

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
McCormack Hall, Solano County Fairgrounds
900 Fairgrounds Drive
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: Debra Duhon, (415) 254-1506
Email: dduhonvgms@gmail.com
Website: vjgems.org

March 6-8:: **Newark, CA**

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Avenue
Hours: Fri 10-4, Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5
Contact: Cathy, (510) 305-4196
Email: cdmiller59@gmail.com
Website: www.mgscv.org

March 7-8:: **Ventura, CA**

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Contact: Richard Slyker, (805) 312-8467
Email: info@vgms.org
Website: vgms.org

March 13-15:: **Victorville, CA**

Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Club
44th Annual Rockhound Tailgate
Stoddard Wells Road/Dale Evans Pkwy
Hours: 9-5 daily
Contact: Ruben Martinez, (760) 429-8263
Email: rmstonewalk54@gmail.com
Website: vvgmc.org

March 14-15:: **Turlock, CA**

Mother Lode Mineral Society, Modesto
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds
900 North Broadway
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contacts: Bud & Terry McMillin, (209) 524-3494
Email: bud.mcmillin.B7YJ@statefarm.com
Website: motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 21-22:: **San Jose, CA**

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: (408) 265-1422
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org

March 29-30:: **Angels Camp, CA**

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Road
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Contact: Robin Williams, (209)-728-8277
Email: robinski@yahoo.com
Website: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

March 28-29:: **Roseville, CA**

Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society
@the Grounds
800 All American City Blvd
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Contact: James Hutchings, (916) 995-7380
Email: jhutchings22@hotmail.com
Website: www.rockrollers.com

the Nugget - Submissions

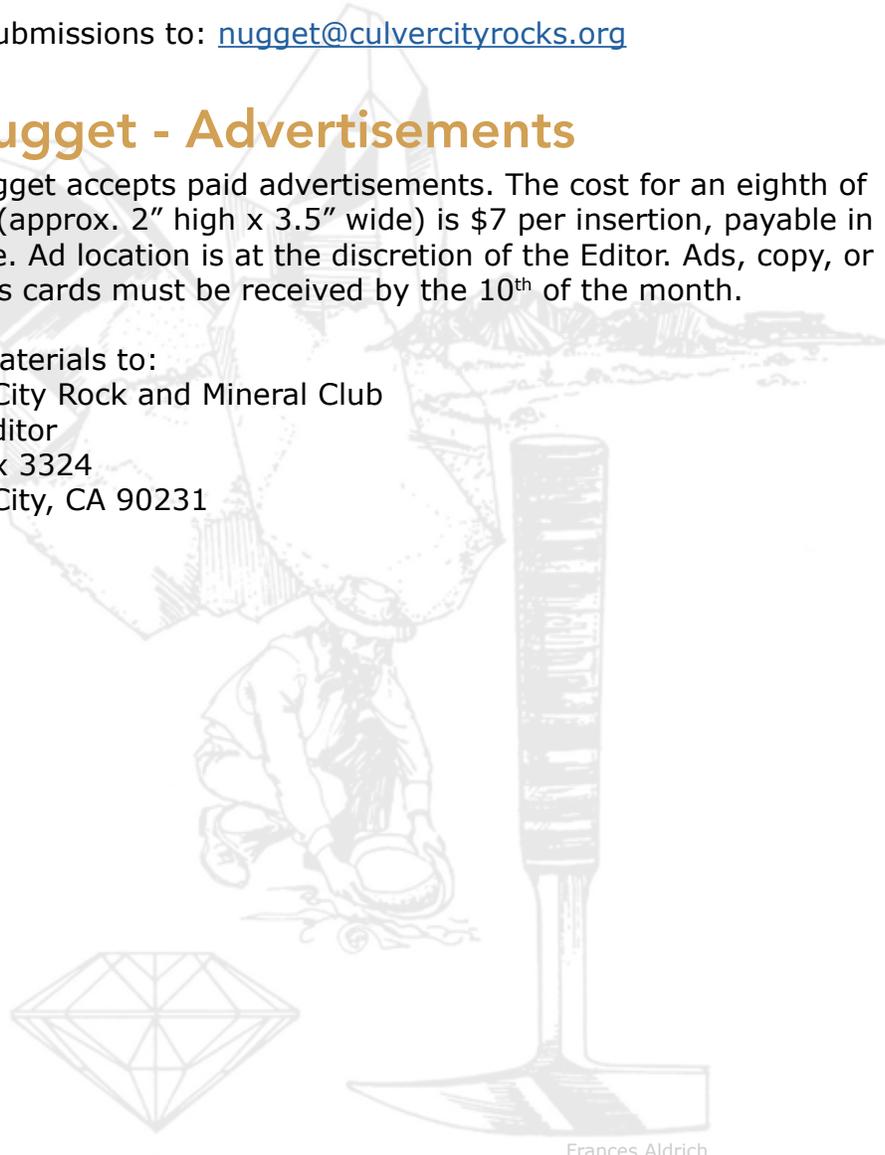
Submissions deadline is on the 15th of every month. Articles or notes without a byline are written by the Editor. Permission to copy is freely given as long as proper credit is noted. Photographs without credits are shot by a CCRMC member. Permission to use photography is freely given as long as proper credit is noted.

Email submissions to: nugget@culvercityrocks.org

the Nugget - Advertisements

The Nugget accepts paid advertisements. The cost for an eighth of a page (approx. 2" high x 3.5" wide) is \$7 per insertion, payable in advance. Ad location is at the discretion of the Editor. Ads, copy, or business cards must be received by the 10th of the month.

Send materials to:
Culver City Rock and Mineral Club
Attn: Editor
P.O. Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231



Frances Aldrich

2020 Elected Officers

President
Brad Smith

Vice President
Steve Dover

Treasurer
Darrell Robb

Recording Secretary
Ana Maria Strambi Guimaraes

Corresponding Secretary
Véronique Gautherot

Parliamentarian
Jon P. Gowling

Committee Chairs

- Education – Karen Wallen
- Federation Director – Rick Shaffer
- Field Trips Chair – Devon Lloyd
- Historian – Virginia Hollis
- Librarian – Andrea Fabian
- Membership – Stephanie Dangott
- Membership Co-Chair – Jan Ferguson
- Minerals Chair – Devon Lloyd
- Photography – Pam Leitner
- Programs – Ken Rogers
- Publications Chair – Janet Gampe
- Publicity – Janice Metz
- Show – Adrienne Louie
- Shop Committee – President, Vice President & Shop Instructors
- Social Co-Chairs – VACANT
- Sunshine – Felice Ganz
- Trading Post – Gary Mitchell
- Web Master – Jette Sorenson
- Workshops – Janice Metz

Board of Directors

2020
Anna Maria Strambi Guimaraes
Bruce Mensinger

2021
Franne Einberg
Gary Mitchell

Stay In Touch



Mailing Address:
Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
PO Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231
310-836-4611

The CCRMC is a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization.

Frances Aldrich



the NUGGET

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF THE
CULVER CITY ROCK &
MINERAL CLUB

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club, Inc.

the Nugget
PO Box 3324
Culver City, CA 90231

Address Change Requested

First Class Mail

